Message Text

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E.O. 11652: XGDS-3 TAGS: PARM, US, UR

SUBJECT: TTBT/PNE NEGOTIATIONS: REPORT OF PLENARY, 18 FEBRUARY

1976 ROUND VI - TTBT/PNE DELEGATION MESSAGE NO 60

REFS: MOSCOW 2361

- 1. SUMMARY: MOROKHOV REACTION TO US COMMENTS ON SOVIET EQUIPMENT PROPOSAL WAS HIGHLY NEGATIVE, FOCUSSING PARTICULARLY ON WITHDRAWAL OF 30-DAY RETENTION OF RECORDING PART OF VERIFICATION EQUIPMENT SET POST EXPLOSION. HE ACCUSED US OF RETREATING FROM ITS OWN PROPOSAL ON THIS, AS WELL AS TIME PERIOD FOR EQUIPMENT FAMILIARIZATION. HE ASSERTED US VIEWS CONFIRMED "WORST EXPECTATIONS" OF USSR THAT US SEEKS UNWARRANTED INFORMATION. STOESSEL TOOK SPECIFIC, AND CATEGORIC, EXCEPTION TO LATTER POINT, AND NOTED THAT US VIEWS RELATE TO SOVIET PROPOSAL TO CHOOSE IN WHICH CONTEXT THEY FULLY SUPPORTABLE. EQUIPMENT DISCUSSION TO CONTINUE IN FEB 19 AM PLENARY. RESTRICTED MEETING ON OTHER ISSUES SET FOR PM FEB 19. EVEN IF HE DOES NOT GO TO VIENNA, MOROKHOV UNAVAILABLE FOR PNE WORK AFTER THIS WEEK BECAUSE, IF IN MOSCOW, HE WOULD BE INVOLVED IN PARTY CONGRESS. END SUMMARY.
- 2. STOESSEL DESCRIBED BRIEFLY (TEXT REFTEL) US COMMENTS ON SOVIET EQUIPMENT PROPOSAL (TEXT MOSCOW 2722), PROVIDING REVISION OF ARTICLE VII PARA 3 OF US PROTOCOL SECRET

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DRAFT ON FAMILIARIZATION EQUIPMENT AS PER PARA 2 OF

STATE 38730. US REVISION OF ARTICLE VII PARA 4, COVERING OTHER ASPECTS VERIFICATION EQUIPMENT, TO BE PROVIDED SOVDEL PM FEB 18, LOOKING TO FURTHER DISCUSSION AT 0930 HOURS PLENARY FEB 19.

- 3. MOROKHOV REACTION INVOLVED LOWER DUDGEON AND DECIBLE LEVELS THAN MOST OF HIS FORMER SHARP OUTBURSTS, ALTHOUGH THERE WAS MUCH TALK OF LACK OF, AND MISPLACED, TRUST, AND NEED FOR COMPLETE FRANKNESS. STOESSEL AGREED WITH LATTER POINT, BUT TOOK EXCEPTION TO MOROKHOV'S ASSERTIONS ABOUT TRUST. AFTER MOROKHOV STATED THAT US COMMENTS: (A) ARE "IN NO WAY SATISFACTORY" TO SOVDEL; (B) "CONFIRM WORST SOVIET EXPECTATIONS" THAT US AIM IN VERIFICATION IS TO GAIN UNWARRANTED INFORMATION; AND (C) LEAD HIM TO CONCLUDE THAT "OUR TALKS ONLY FACE AN IMPASSE"; MOROKHOV WENT ON TO SAY THAT "PARTS OF US STATEMENT ARE UNSATISFACTORY", BUT SOVEL WOULD "STUDY WITH ATTENTION" US VIEWS.
- 4. PRINCIPAL POINT DRAWING MOROKHOV IRE WAS WITHDRAWAL OF HOST PARTY RIGHT TO RETAIN, IN ITS SOLE CUSTODY, VERIFICATION SET OF EQUIPMENT FOR 30-DAY PERIOD POST EXPLOSION. MOROKHOV SAID USSR WOULD "INSIST" ON SUCH 30-DAY PERIOD TO RETAIN DATA RECORDING EQUIPMENT OF VERIFICATION SET, BUT MIGHT BE WILLING TO LET VERIFYING PARTY, IMMEDIATELY AFTER EXPLOSION, TAKE WHAT HE PERSISTED IN CALLING "HOSTAGE SET."
- 5. THERE WAS LENGTHY EXCHANGE ON FAMILIARIZATION SCENARIO, GIST OF WHICH IS THAT TWO SIDES DIFFER OVER NUMBER OF DAYS 'US 30; USSR 60) FOR SUCH ACTIVITY, BUT SOVIETS DO AGREE WITH CONCEPT OF ESTABLISHING TIMING SCENARIO SO THAT FAMILIARIZATION SET OF EQUIPMENT COULD BE USED AS ONE OF TWO EQUIPMENT SETS FOR PURPOSES OF HOST PARTY CHOICE. MOROKHOV REPEATED NUMBER OF TIMES THAT "60 DAYS FOR FAMILIARIZATION ESSENTIAL" FOR USSR.
- 6. MOROKHOV SAID HE DID NOT WISH TO MEET AFTERNOON FEB 18: HE PREFERRED STUDY US COMMENTS AND TEXT. THUS, PLENARY SET FOR MORNING FEB 19, WITH RESTRICTED MEETING ON OTHER ISSUES THAT AFTERNOON.

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7. MOROKHOV TOLD STOESSEL PRIVATELY FOLLOWING MEETING THAT HE REGRETTED NEED TO BREAK CONTINUITY OF NEGOTIATIONS BY HIS TRIP TO VIENNA. SITUATION WOULD BE NO BETTER IF HE STAYED HERE, FOR WHILE IN MOSCOW, MOROKHOV SAID HE WOULD BE TIED UP WITH 25TH PARTY CONGRESS ACTIVITIES AND, HENCE, NOT AVAILABLE TO PURSUE PNE WORK.

COMMENT: CONGRESS ESTIMATED TO RUN UNTIL MARCH 5. END COMMENT. STOESSEL	
SECRET	
NNN	

Message Attributes

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